



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
CITY OF LOVES PARK

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Darryl F. Lindberg, *Mayor*

August 18, 2014

**Chairman Tom Wheeler
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
Commissioner Jessica Rosenworcel
Commissioner Ajit Pai
Commissioner Michael O'Reilly
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554**

RE: MB Docket No. 14-57

Dear Chairman and Commissioners:

I currently serve as Mayor in the City of Loves Park, Illinois, located about 80 miles northwest of Chicago with a population of around 24,000 people. I write you today because I have heard that the Federal Communications Commission is reviewing comments on the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable. I would like to take this opportunity to voice my full support for this transaction. As a longtime resident and public servant in Loves Park, which is a Comcast-served market, I can personally speak to Comcast's commitment to our communities and positive economic impact.

Comcast is a strong supporter of good jobs in Illinois, and it has been a consistent partner in supporting and positively impacting economic growth on both the state and local level. I have read that the company employs nearly 7,000 full-time workers in Illinois. The company owns and operates over 160 properties in the state, including a service center that is in close proximity to Loves Park and employs many of our residents.

Comcast has proven itself to be a committed partner in our local community, with several service programs that get our residents involved in positive activities that really make a difference. On April 26 of this year, for instance, Loves Park hosted our very own Comcast Cares Day, which is the nation's largest single-day corporate volunteer effort. The event was a terrific success, as volunteers from Comcast and from our community joined together at

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various local sites, beautifying our neighborhoods and benefitting the Northern Illinois Food Pantry.

One of the most important reasons that I support the proposed transaction between Comcast and Time Warner Cable is because I know that Comcast follows through on its commitments. I could point to several examples, but I'll focus on one: Comcast's Internet Essentials Program. Comcast has been at the forefront of bridging the digital divide and devoting resources to ensure broadband adoption for low-income families who can't afford Internet access at home. Internet Essentials – launched in 2011 as a three-year experiment to promote digital literacy- provides affordable broadband Internet access to low-income families with children that qualify for free or price-reduced lunches under the National School Lunch Program. Comcast was under no obligation to extend this program after its initial three years, but it recently volunteered to do so indefinitely. I hear that Comcast has connected over 1.4 million Americans to the Internet. In the Rockford area, which includes Loves Park, Comcast has seen the number of connected low-income households jump from 171 in the first year to over 1,000 this past year.

I am very excited by the opportunities and commitments that Comcast has brought to Loves Park. But other areas of the country not currently within Comcast's footprint do not have the same access and opportunities provided by Comcast's economic investments, community involvement and digital literacy programs. If you approve the proposed transaction, Comcast will be able to bring the Internet to millions of new families.

I hope you will approve this transaction. Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Darryl F. Lindberg". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "D" and "L".

Darryl F. Lindberg
Mayor of Loves Park, Illinois